

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 159889
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RWBAKER:JJ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

S E C R E T STATE 159889

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, US

SUBJECT: U.S. MILITARY SURVEY TEAM

1. WHILE AWAITING SOMALI CONFIRMATION OF JUNE 10 ARRIVAL OF TEAM, WE ARE AGAIN REVIEWING QUESTION OF ADVISABILITY OF SENDING TEAM AT THIS TIME IN VIEW OF CONTINUING EVIDENCE OF SOMALI INVOLVEMENT WITH OGADEN INSURGENCY.

2. REQUEST YOUR BEST ESTIMATE AS TO HOW SIAD WOULD INTERPRET A U.S. DECISION NOT TO SEND TEAM AT THIS TIME AFTER ALL, AND HIS LIKELY REACTION TO SUCH A STEP ON OUR PART. WOULD OUR FAILURE TO PROCEED, COUPLED WITH SIAD'S FAILURE SECURE ARMS FROM OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES, MAKE IT POLITICALLY PALATABLE IN SOMALIA FOR SIAD TO SEEK NOW TO MEND HIS FENCES WITH THE SOVIETS?

3. REQUEST ALSO YOUR RECOMMENDATION AS TO BEST MEANS OF
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CONVEYING SUCH A DECISION TO SIAD SHOULD WE DECIDE NOT TO PROCEED.

4. WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE YOUR VIEWS BY COB
JUNE 23.

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